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3747

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of Torsten HARMS, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/556,121

Confirmation No.: 4366

Filed: November 9, 2005

Art Unit: 3747

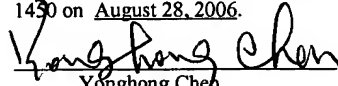
For: **BALANCING SHAFT FOR AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE AND METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION THEREOF**

Attorney Docket No.: 3926.221

Customer No.: 30448

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited either by facsimile to 571-273-8300 or with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 28, 2006.


Yonghong Chen Reg. No. 56,150

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98**

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the following documents for the above-identified application. Copies of the non-US documents set forth below and listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A, copy of an International Search Report (ISR) and a German Examination Report dated May 6, 2004 issued in the corresponding applications are provided herewith.

1. FR 2 129 411 A (English-language equivalent application GB 1 367 831 is provided)
2. DE 198 37 091 A1 (English abstract is provided)
3. DE 975 104 C
4. FR 819 193 A
5. GB 2 050 207 A (in English)
6. WO 01/29447 A1 (has English abstract)
7. US 2003/0029027 A1
8. GB 1 367 831 (English-language equivalent application of FR 2 129 411 A)
9. DE 197 23 378 A1 (English abstract is provided)
10. DE 198 32 987 A1 (English abstract is provided)

Documents 1-7 were cited in the ISR. Document 8 is an English-language equivalent application of Document 1. Document 9 was cited in the German Examination Report dated May 6, 2004. Document 10 was mentioned in the background of the specification of the instant application. A concise explanation of relevancy for each non-English document is provided below:

Document 1

It is indicated in the ISR that page 4, paragraph 2 and the Figs. 1-2 of Document 1 are "X" category relevant to claims 1-5, 7-11, and 14 and "Y" category relevant to claims 6 and 12-13 of the corresponding PCT application of the instant application. An English-language equivalent application GB 1 367 831 (as Document 8) is also provided herewith.

Document 2

It is indicated in the ISR that column 1, lines 53-56 and the Figs. 1-2 of Document 2 are "X" category relevant to claims 1-5, 7-11, and 14 of the corresponding PCT application of the instant application. An English abstract of Document 2 is also provided herewith.

{WP329717;1}

Document 3

It is indicated in the ISR that the figures of Document 3 are "X" category relevant to claim 1 of the corresponding PCT application of the instant application. Document 3 has English-language family applications US 2,914,963 and US 2,914,964.

Document 4

It is indicated in the ISR that the Fig. 5 of Document 4 is "X" category relevant to claim 1 of the corresponding PCT application of the instant application.

Document 6

It is indicated in the ISR that Document 6 is "A" category relevant to the corresponding PCT application of the instant application. Document 6 contains an English abstract.

Document 9

It is stated in the German Examination Report dated May 6, 2004 that Document 9 discloses a counterbalancing shaft for an engine, which has a tubular hollow body and a balancing weight 4 as well as function elements 15, 16 disposed on the hollow body, whereby the balancing weight 4 is disposed and fixed on the external circumference of the hollow body. An English abstract of Document 9 is also provided herewith.

Document 10

The relevancy of Document 10 is explained in the background of the specification of the instant application. An English abstract of Document 10 is also provided herewith.

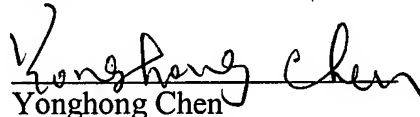
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, therefore no Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08A be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Date: August 28, 2006

Respectfully submitted,


Yonghong Chen

Registration No. 56,150

Customer No. 30448

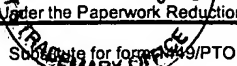
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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/556,121
Filing Date	11/09/2005
First Named Inventor	Torsten HARMS
Art Unit	3747
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	3926.221

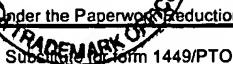
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ *Number ⁴ *Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		GB 1 367 831 A	09-25-1974	KLOCKNER HUMBOLDT DEUTZ AG		
		DE 197 23 378 A1	01-02-1998	Volkswagen AG		
		DE 198 32 987 A1	02-04-1999	Aisin Seiki K.K.		

Date
Considered

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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Sheet	1	of	2
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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ ~Number ⁴ ~Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
		FR 2 129 411 A	10-27-1972	KLOCKNER HUMBOLDT DEUTZ AG		
		DE 198 37 091 A1	02-24-2000	DaimlerChrysler AG		
		DE 975 104 C	08-10-1961	Daimler-Benz AG		
		FR 819 193 A	10-12-1937	PROCEDES DABEG SOC D EXPL DES		
		GB 2 050 207 A	01-07-1981	MANESMANN AG		
		WO 01/29447 A1	04-26-2001	STEYR DAIMLER PUCH AG		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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